

A NEW SPECIES OF LITHOSPERMUM (BORAGINACEAE) FROM NEAR
EL SALTO, DURANGO, MEXICO

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Recent collections by Dr. R. D. Worthington in a remote area southwest of El Salto, Durango has revealed the following novelty.

Lithospermum worthingtonii B. L. Turner, sp. nov.

L. calycosum accedens sed calycibus brevioribus, foliis auriculatis pubescentibus, corollis latioribus lobulis corallarum integris, pollinis granis ovoideis.

Perennial herbs 30-45 cm tall. Stems stiffly erect, unbranched below, arising from a persistent rosette. Basal leaves villous, oblanceolate, 3-5 nerved, up to 5 cm long and 1.5 cm wide; stem leaves 20-30, lanceolate to ovate-lanceolate, sessile, somewhat clasping, moderately soft silky-villous above and below, only the mid-nerve obvious. Inflorescence terminal with 1-3 circinnate branches. Calyx (both flowering and fruiting) 4-5 mm long, the lobes 5, linear, 3-4 mm long, pubescent with mostly appressed soft silky hairs. Corolla yellow, broadly tubular, flaring toward the lobes, 9-15 mm long; tubular portion moderately spreading pubescent throughout, the inner surface without faucal appendages, glabrous except for scattered glandular trichomes in the throat and accentuated in lines just below the anther sacs, a few peculiar, much longer, eglandular, multiseptate trichomes often found above the anthers; lobes recurved, 2-4 mm long and twice as wide, entire or nearly so. Anthers 2-3 mm long, attached 2-4 mm below the throat, glabrous, without appendages; free part of filament ca. 0.5 mm long, glabrous. Style 2.5-3.0 mm long, the stigma 2-lobed. Nutlets 4, ovoid, ca. 2 mm long, 1.6 mm wide, prominently crested both ventrally and apically, smooth, glaucous. Pollen globose, 2-porate.

TYPE. MEXICO. Durango: 5.1 road miles along highway 40, southwest of El Salto at Arroyo de Agua (ca. 23°45'N x 105°24'W), ca. 8000 ft, "pine forest, rocky slopes along stream", 20 Aug 1982, R. D. Worthington 8904 (holotype TEX; isotypes ETEP; MEXU).

Lithospermum worthingtonii will key to L. calycosum in Johnston's (1952) treatment of the genus. It is readily

distinguished from that taxon, however, by its consistently shorter fruiting calyx (4-5 mm long vs 9-10 mm long), auriculate or semi-clasping upper stem leaves which are softly pubescent, broader corollas with essentially entire lobes and ovoid pollen grains. Nevertheless, they possess similar corollas (both without faucal appendages and endowed with glandular trichomes within the throat and stamens attached in the upper part of the tube). They also possess similar nutlets, although those of L. worthingtonii appear to be somewhat smaller and with more prominent apical ridges.

It is a pleasure to name the species for Dr. Richard D. Worthington of the Department of Biology, University of Texas, El Paso (ETEP), avid collector and nautralist who forwarded the present material to me for identification.

Literature Cited

Johnston, I. M. 1952. Studies in the Boraginaceae, XXII. A survey of the genus Lithospermum. J. Arnold Arb. 33: 299-315.